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SALES REPRESENTATIVE

POLITICS: Tributes pour in

Kormos remembered in Pelham

DAN DAKIN
and SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff and QMI Agency Niagara

One-time Pelham MPP Peter Kormos is being remembered as a "staunch defender of democracy and fairness" and a man who was a tireless advocate for his constituents. The Niagara Region councillor, who represented Pelham at Queen's Park from 1999 to 2007, died Saturday at age 60.

see TRIBUTES | PAGE 2



ERNEST DOROSZUK QMI Agency
MPP Peter Kormos poses for a picture in the halls of Queen's Park in this March 2009 file photo. He died on the weekend at his home.

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upfront

■ TRIBUTES

Kormos was a 'staunch defender'

FROM PAGE 1

Pelham Mayor Dave Augustyn, a colleague of Kormos on the current regional council, said news of the sudden death was "quite shocking."

Augustyn said Kormos never stopped fighting on behalf of Pelham residents despite the change in provincial riding boundaries.

"He continued to take interest in Pelham because because people were so used to calling him," Augustyn said.

He remembers Kormos as a "strong supporter" of working with the people he served.

Welland MP Malcolm Allen said Kormos would help anyone who walked into his office.

"I know in his office, it didn't matter where folks came from. It wasn't unusual for him to talk about people he helped in Fort Erie and Pelham."

Allen, who severed on Pelham town council who served before he was elected to serve federally, said Kormos was "probably the most recognizable politician in the province."

He was also passionate about the people who he felt had been dealt a bad hand in life.

"Peter was one of those individuals who always made sure people whose voices weren't heard had a chance to be heard," Allen said, of his



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Welland MP Malcolm Allen walks alongside MPP Peter Kormos in the Rose Festival parade shortly before Kormos's retirement from Queen's Park. Kormos—who broke tradition and preferred to walk in parades—was sidelined by a sprained ankle in 2011.

fellow New Democrat.

"His good friends will sorely miss his friendship."

As word of the polarizing figure's death spread, tributes poured in from across the province.

"Everything he did, he did it for others and not for himself," Ontario NDP Leader Andrea Horwath said. "He upheld the integrity of the democratic

process and he had a thirst for knowledge and information

that he would use to benefit others."

Kormos, a criminal lawyer before devoting his full time politics, was never afraid to ruffle feathers at Queen's Park. After serving as a city councillor in Welland, he was elected as to the legislature in a 1986 byelection for the Welland riding to succeed longtime New Democrat Mel Swart.

Kormos stayed at Queen's Park until he retired from the

provincial legislature in 2011.

But he wasn't completely done with politics. In March 2012 Kormos was elected to regional council in a byelection, earning 73% of the vote to succeed Cindy Forster, his successor in the legislature.

At the time, Kormos said he ran for regional council because he wanted to apply what he learned at Queen's Park to the needs of his hometown.

Regional Chairman Gary Burroughs said he spoke with Kormos last Thursday and said he was "bright as usual."

"He was looking forward to running again and we had a great conversation about it," he said.

Burroughs called Kormos a "tireless advocate for the residents of Welland" and said he represented them "with a tenacity and flare that is rare in Canadian politics."

"He was a staunch defender of democracy and fairness, and these principles were at the heart of every cause he championed," Burroughs said.

"I think he really enjoyed regional council because he was so close to the people" he added.

Burroughs described Kormos as "the character of council," who wasn't afraid to say anything.

In February, Kormos launched a weekly radio talk show with St. Catharines regional Coun. Andy Petrowski to discuss regional politics.

"Peter and I were chatting (Friday) about what we were going to tackle on our radio show Sunday," Petrowski said. "Except for his closest friends, he kept his health challenges very private. It was evident he was struggling with different things."

Petrowski said he respected Kormos greatly.

"Even though Peter and I were on opposite ends of the spectrum politically, he was extremely professional and respectful," he said. "It's a sad day for Niagara. No one will be able to replace Peter's mark on the political landscape locally and provincially."

Welland Mayor Barry Sharpe said Kormos's passing "will be felt right across the community."

"It's absolutely not a question there will be an outpouring of grief and sadness," he said.

Sharpe said he held a long acquaintance with Kormos through politics, most recently as a fellow member of regional council.

"It's a huge sense of loss that will be felt across south Niagara. Peter was well-known and respected as a champion of the people."

Forster said he was a "mentor" and the person who encouraged her to get into politics in the 1990s. Kormos recommended she try for a seat on Welland city council.

"He told me they needed more people like me because there needed to be more women on council. There was only one woman on council at that time," she said.

— with files from Jeff Bolichowski

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■ EASTER: Kids were scrambling Saturday

Sweet bounty awaited these hunters

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

Great weather and the promise of sweet treats really had kids hopping like the Easter Bunny this weekend.

Chocolate-loving youngsters couldn't wait to get their hands on eggs hidden at Marlene Stewart Streit Park — so they decided to take matters into their own hands.

They took off Saturday even before Mayor Dave Augustyn could blow the whistle signaling it was time to go hunting for about 270 kilograms — the equivalent of 24 boxes worth

— of chocolate eggs.

But that was "OK" the kids got an early start, said recreation, culture and wellness programmer Halee Lymburner.

"It was certainly a success," she said of the ninth EGGS extravaganza.

Each year, the egg hunt continues to grow in attendance.

"We had counters out this year and they recorded 761 children who took part in the hunt," she said.

Organizers were prepared for the extra amount of people. Pelham Fire Services was standing by just in case,

and two crossing guards helped pedestrians to cross a busy Pelham St. on their way to the Fonthill park before the hunt began.

The event also featured a visit from the Easter Bunny, as well as a barbecue hosted by Enbridge. In exchange for donations to the Isaac Riehl Skate Park, families were able to enjoy hotdogs and hamburgers.

And in Port Colborne, kids, too, were on the hunt for sugary rewards. The city, with the mayor's youth advisory council, presented an Easter egg hunt at Roselawn Centre.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Pictured from left to right, Rachael Millar, Mya Saari, Luca Saari and Ailyah Saari patiently waited in line for the egg hunt to begin at Marlene Stewart Streit Park.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Rose Hancock, 8, and Celine Gallab, 9, are excited about their haul from the egg hunt at Marlene Stewart Streit Park, Saturday. Gallab was the proud finder of a golden egg for which she received a special prize. For a story and pictures see page 3.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Keira Phillip, 4, said she hopes to fill her basket with at least 100 chocolates she collects from Marlene Stewart Streit Park.

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Sarah Ferguson, REPORTER

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Fenwick flagpole to fly the flag with pride

I firmly believe in the saying 'You can't know where you're going if you don't know where you've been.' With the 160th anniversary celebration planned for Fenwick in June, the community's history will be in the forefront of people's minds in the weeks leading up to it.

Last Thursday morning, downtown Fenwick was filled with the excitement from people who watched a crane begin renovating the historic flagpole.

There was a sense of revitalization in the air as traffic was slowed to begin restorations for the 160th anniversary.

No one could miss what was taking place—an important place of the town's history was being preserved for future generations.

Staff members from the Town of Pelham, including Mayor Dave Augustyn, watched as the top of the flag pole was lifted from the pole to restore it to its former glory.

Youngsters from St. Ann Public School were also invited to see all of the action and I couldn't help but smile at the amusement on their faces as they watched their heritage be preserved.

"Oh, a crane," exclaimed one of the students in the school's kindergarten class.

To those who don't know its history, the flagpole may not be significant but it does have a special meaning to the community.

The flagpole was a focal point of the downtown core and it was a meeting place to welcome soldiers home.

Looking at the flagpole, it's hard for me to imagine what it was like in 1945 when soldiers returning from the Second World War were saluted with a parade.

Once renovations on the flagpole are completed, it will once again be a proud fixture in the community.

Work for the flagpole includes structural reinforcements and improvements, as well as a new pulley system to allow the flag to be raised and lowered on special occasions.

All of the work, which is part of a \$2.1 million downtown Fenwick revitalization plan, will be finished in time for the 160th anniversary of Fenwick.

With all of the talk about the changes in the small downtown and the celebration which will take place in a few months' time, I encourage those who don't know its history, to learn all they can about it.

You won't be disappointed.

—Sarah Ferguson

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

■ COLUMN

Terrorism and Dual Citizenship

Should terrorists continue to enjoy Canadian citizenship?

Becoming a Canadian citizen is a privilege enjoyed by many of us by virtue of birth. Others are thrilled to become citizens after leaving their homelands in pursuit of a better life. There are, however, a small percentage of immigrants, called "Canadians of convenience," who stay here long enough to apply for and attain citizenship, then move back to their countries of origin. Some of these "Canadians of convenience" only use their Canadian citizenship for healthcare, travel, and emergency evacuation if their country of residence falls into



DEAN ALLISON
FROM THE HILL

crisis. Others, however, never bought into the constitutional principles of Canada, like freedom of expression, freedom of religion, and equality before and under the law, but instead retain ideologies radically opposed to Western liberal democracy.

In some cases, these ideologically inclined individuals take advantage of their Canadian citizenship to travel with the aim of fighting

against our troops stationed overseas or engaging in terrorist activities against Canadian and foreign citizens.

Should such Canadians retain their citizenship? A Private Member's Bill sponsored by Devinder Shory, MP for Calgary Northeast aims to amend the Citizenship Act to allow the government to strip Canadian citizenship from dual citizens in such circumstances.

Below is an excerpt from an editorial run in the Feb. 12, 2013 National Post by the Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration responding to an article by Chris Selley in the February 7, 2013 National Post:

Chris Selley's cynical dismissal of the proposal to

strip Canadian citizenship from individuals who wage war against Canada or commit serious acts of terrorism ("The citizenship talking point," Feb. 7) is too eager to assign superficial motives while ignoring the deeply rooted and principled reasons for the proposed reforms.

Canada's 1947 Citizenship Act included the power to revoke citizenship from those guilty of treason. The removal of this provision in 1977 made Canada's citizenship law an aberration, as most other liberal democracies have the legal authority to strip citizenship for such crimes as treason and terrorism.

see ALLISON | page 5

■ COLUMN

Every wedding gown a work of art

Say yes to the dress. Zita Bishop has, hundreds of times.

Zita makes bridal gowns. Not for big girls intent on tying the knot, marriage on their minds. But for little girls, with Barbie dolls on their minds.

It's something she has been doing in the quiet of her Pelham apartment for about 10 years.

She's modest about how many gowns she's made: "Maybe a hundred," she said.

Husband Larry couldn't keep his lips sewn shut about her good work: "It's more than that, it's several hundred for sure."

Zita has made make-believe altar-bound Barbies for children and grandchildren of family and friends. A retired nurse, she has made many for former colleagues over the years, including nurses who were in her graduating class who regard them as heirloom gifts for children in their families.

Many others are taken to the Barbie Angel Project in Riviera Nayarit, Mexico as gifts, especially at Christmas, for



JOE BARKOVICH
GUEST COLUMNIST

children in remote villages, in orphanages and schools. Jaltrema Bay Life, a community website serving the area, reports that the project was started about 10 years ago by Geri de Mos "A lifelong crocheter who got tired of dolls."

A shipment of about 30 Barbies and their wedding gowns was being readied for delivery to Mexico when I visited the Bishops. They are taken by their daughter, Karen Cunningham, who is returning to the Nayarit area for a holiday in April.

"I've become the Barbie mule" said Karen, who jokes about her role in getting them to their destination.

A law clerk by profession, Karen said Nayarit is her choice vacation place. But she



JOE BARKOVICH Tribune Photo
Zita Bishop is shown with some of the Barbie dolls in wedding gowns she has sewn, a project that brings her great delight.

didn't go last year because of the death of her friend and travelling companion. She looks forward to bringing the "Barbie wedding entourage" with her when she goes.

Zita and Larry Bishop look for Barbie dolls, and wedding gowns, together. In a sense, their charitable work keeps them stitched together as close

as can be. "I'm her driver, I chauffeur her around," Larry said. "We go on expeditions looking for them."

They visit yard sales, garage sales, thrift shops like Goodwill and other second-time-around sellers.

see BARKOVICH | page 6

■ ALLISON

Bringing Canadian citizenship back in line

FROM PAGE 4

In Australia and the United Kingdom, for example, a person can be stripped of citizenship if it is in the public's best interest — a much lower and vaguer standard than what MP Devinder Shory or I have suggested. Just last year, the United Kingdom revoked the citizenship of Mahdi Hashi for involvement in extremist activities.

Mr. Selley writes that, "if you gain citizenship legitimately, it's yours unless you give it up. You have rights in Canada, and responsibilities to Canada, and Canada has a responsibility to you, including dealing with you if you blow up a bus in a faraway land." I agree, up to a point.

Like the 1947 Citizenship Act and the Oath of Citizenship, Mr. Shory's bill is predicated on the idea of reciprocal loyalty implicit in citizenship. If a Canadian passport-holder maintains another nationality while waging war against Canada or committing a serious act of terrorism, this should be construed for what it so obviously is: a violent severing of the bonds of loyalty implicit in the idea of citizenship. Without the possibility of

such a sanction, Mr. Selley's belief in a citizen's "responsibilities to Canada" is just empty rhetoric.

But I reject the notion that, if someone takes up arms against the Canadian Forces or commits an act of violent terrorism, Canada should be forced to welcome them back as though the fundamental breach of mutual loyalty never occurred. Virtually no other liberal democracy, from France to New Zealand, from Switzerland to Brazil, believes they have such a self-destructive obligation.

Obviously there should be a high legal threshold for triggering deemed renunciation of citizenship, with appropriate legal safeguards. And, given our international treaty obligations, it can only be applied to those who hold dual or multiple nationalities, to avoid creating stateless persons.

Far from being opportunistic or cynical, Mr. Shory's thoughtful private member's bill and the amendments I have suggested would bring Canada back in line with the legal norm throughout the free world, and revive the assumptions that have always been implicit in our citizenship law.

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■ **HERITAGE:** Project will allow Male Leaf to be raised and lowered

Fenwick flagpole getting face-lift

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

As Pelham residents walk, cycle or drive past the old flag pole in downtown Fenwick, they might not think about or even realize the structure's significance.

But lifelong Pelham resident George Alsop does — and soon, so will everybody else.

When he was 18 years old, Alsop was a member of the local cadets and led a parade

to salute veterans from the Second World War. The year was 1945 and Alsop was a commanding officer with his cadet unit.

The flagpole was a meeting place to welcome soldiers home.

"As we young cadets were preparing to go off to war, the boys were returning home."

Alsop last Thursday morning happily received the flag that has been flying from the flagpole.

It was given to him by

Mayor Dave Augustyn in front of junior and senior kindergarten students from St. Ann School in Fenwick who were in amazement of a crane used by the Ewing Flagpole Co. from Whitby to work on the flagpole.

Traffic was also slowed in downtown Fenwick as flagpole restorations are commencing for the 160th anniversary of Fenwick.

The planned restoration work includes adding a pulley system to allow the flag to be raised and lowered on special occasions, as well as minor structural reinforcements and improvements.

Once it's completed, the flagpole will fly a new flag atop the 15.3-metre-tall structure. The work is included in a \$2.1-million downtown Fenwick revitalization plan.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo
George Alsop, centre, receives the flag that was flying atop of the historic Fenwick flagpole from Ewing Flagpole operator Terry Myles, left, and Mayor Dave Augustyn, right, in front of a group of students from St. Ann School Thursday.



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PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS:
Specifications and submission requirements may be obtained from the Town of Pelham Web Site at www.pelham.ca/business/tenders, the Bidding Website at www.bidding.com or from the Corporate Services Department at the Pelham Municipal Building, 20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill, Ontario during regular business hours.

Site Visit: Friday April 5th, 2013 3:00pm

Closing: Thursday April 11th, 2013 4:00pm

The lowest OR any submission not necessarily accepted.

■ **BARKOVICH**

Bringing smiles to faces

FROM PAGE 4

"Somebody is always selling Barbie dolls," said Zita.

"Wedding dresses can be harder to find," said Larry. "I've even used my daughter's wedding dress," said Zita.

All the supplies — the dolls and gowns — are paid for out of pocket, Larry's pocket mainly.

"It's no big deal," he said. "They try not to spend more than \$20 on a gown."

It's serious work to Zita, who said: "I like to put my mind to it, I take my time. I can make a gown in a day, I like to fuss with them."

She said she can make "about a dozen" Barbie wedding gowns from one bridal gown.

Her at-home seamstress

shop occupies a corner of their bedroom and part of a large walk-in closet is used for material storage and other supplies.

"Some of the gowns are simple to make but I try to make each one different, and special," she said.

Her motivation is straight from the heart: "I do this because I know it will bring a smile to a little girl's face," she said.

The Bishops have more in common than working together on a wedding gown project for Barbie dolls. They share the same birthdate, April 27, when they will turn 71.

"I'm never too old for something like this," Larry said. "I'm proud of what she does. Every gown is like a work of art."



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ZUMBA GOLD – Pelham Arena
Tuesday Apr 9th 9:30am - 10:30am
Thursday Apr 11th 9:30am - 10:30am

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Thursday's Old Pelham Town Hall - 46 Canboro Rd. Ridgville
(4-7 yrs) 5:30-6:00pm
(8+ yrs) 6:30-6:50pm

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Fenwick's 160th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, June 1, 2013 10am-11pm

Enjoy a summer's day filled with heritage, activities, music and buskers – all for free. A 'heritage' focus will accompany the celebrations and all in attendance will be able to walk freely on the closed streets. Participant application and sponsorship forms are available on-line at www.pelham.ca.

Summerfest 2013

Thursday, July 18 – Sunday, July 21, 2013

It's never too early to start thinking about Pelham's summer fun festival! Check out the updates at www.pelhamsummerfest.ca. Art show, vendor and sponsorship applications are now available on-line.

GENERAL INFORMATION**"Town of Pelham - RESERVE CROSSING GUARDS"**

There is an immediate need for reserve school crosswalk guards to relieve the regular guards during periods of illness and vacation. The position has an hourly pay rate of \$12.98 per hour.
Persons interested in becoming a reserve school crosswalk guard can pick up an application form in the Recreation, Culture & Wellness Department (20 Pelham Town Square).

Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

Please be reminded By-law No. 3164 (2011) requires that, after the effective end of any winter precipitation event, the owner or occupant of every occupied building and the owner of every unoccupied building and the owner of every parcel of vacant land, shall clear away and remove, or cause to be cleared away and removed, snow and ice from the sidewalk to a clear condition within twenty-four (24) hours. Please take steps to ensure that you are in compliance with the by-law.

Interested in Joining the Communities in Bloom Committee?

The Communities in Bloom Committee is a Town Committee dedicated to keeping Pelham beautiful. The Committee is responsible for planning events such as Pelham's Annual Garden Tour and Community Celebration Day's in the Fall and Spring.

To become part of this committee or for further information please contact the Recreation, Culture & Wellness Coordinator (905) 892-2607 ext 341.

Is your business interested in being listed in the Town of Pelham**(Recreation, Culture & Wellness Division?)**

If so, please be sure to fill out a business directory information card with the Town of Pelham. For an information card, please visit Town Hall, 20 Pelham Town Square – 1st Floor, or contact 905-892-2607, Ext. 315

Interested in renting the Arena Hall or the Old Pelham Town Hall?

Call the Town of Pelham at 905-892-2607, Ext. 329

IMPORTANT TO DOG OWNERS

Please be reminded that Town of Pelham Dog Control By-law 97-2010 requires that any person who owns controls or harbors a dog shall remove, forthwith, any feces (excrement) left by their dog on private or public property. Remember to be responsible! Stop and Scoop!

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KEEP PELHAM STREETS "LIT"

Residents of the Town of Pelham are asked to report any problems with streetlights to the Public Works Department at 905-892-2607, ext.332
The hydro utility requires that a pole number be provided when reporting the problem

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Managing Hip or Knee Joint Pain

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Giller Prize Winner Elizabeth Hay

Scotiabank Giller Prize Winner for Late Nights on Air, Giller Finalist for A Student of Weather, Governor General's Award Finalist for Garbo Laughs and A Student of Weather, Finalist for Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize for both A Student of Weather and Small Change. Elizabeth is the recipient of the prestigious Merlan Engel Award. In 2012 a plaque was unveiled in Ottawa for Garbo Laughs as part of Project Bookmark Canada. Wed., Apr 17 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Please purchase ahead. We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$154 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country. Pelham Public Library.

Ongoing**Knit Wits - Knitting Club**

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Maria leads you through different types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. For fun, learn what the symbols from your creative visualization mean. Bring a pen and notebook. \$3.00. Please register ahead. Sat, Feb 9 & Mar 2. 9:30-11:30 am.

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Monthly Hearing Clinic

Connect Hearing will be at the Fonthill Branch giving free hearing screenings. They will be able to answer any questions about various hearing issues. Free but please schedule your appointment at: 905-892-6068, Apr 22, 10:00am-1:00pm



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Ben Obdeyn, left, and Frank Memme from Niagara-based charity Wells of Hope are off to Guatemala to finish two schools made of plastic bottles.

■ **WELLS OF HOPE:** Guatemalan project makes good use of old plastic

Bottling up an education

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNews Staff

PELHAM — Keeping hope alive in impoverished countries is a tough job.

But that doesn't dissuade passionate volunteers such as Ben Obdeyn and Frank Memme.

The two men continue to bring a bit of hope to people in rural Guatemala through Niagara-based charity Wells of Hope.

"We're just trying to make this place a better Earth and give these children a chance to educate themselves and be able to make themselves a living," Obdeyn said.

The duo take off for Obdeyn's 25th trip to the mountainous region of Jalapa today, where he will finish building two schools that were started in early November.

"Every time we go down it's a new and deeper experience," Memme said. "It's so deep it compels you to come back."

Obdeyn and Memme have helped build 13 schools in the region, but the most recent two are a first for them.

Both are made of trash.

Local people collected plastic bottles and stuffed them with non-biodegradable materials like candy wrappers and pieces of plastic.

Masons then stack them in 4-by-six-foot spaces between two layers of chicken wire then stucco over them.

"You can't tell the difference between a wall filled with bottles and a full concrete wall," Obdeyn said. "It's pretty incredible."

The concrete structures have three classrooms, wash-room facilities and one has a kitchen to help the school qualify for the government's meal program.

Obdeyn said some of the schools they have seen were little more than shacks without desks, lights, water or washrooms.

"They just don't have the

things we take for granted," he said.

Memme's daughter, television personality Tanya Memme, and her camera crew are flying down to create a documentary for the charity about its plastic bottle schools.

The documentary will feature actor Ricky Schroeder and his family.

Wells of Hope has also provided 10 fresh water wells used by three to five communities each through donations.

The foundation's fundraising golf tournament is quickly approaching and it hosts jewelry parties featuring a wide variety of pieces handmade in Guatemala.

For more information, to make a donation or host a party call Memme at 905-933-0071. Full details of upcoming events can be found at www.wellofhope.com.

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■ **PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Time to dress up shelves with new material



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Jo Bouchard and Maria Bouchard are organizing the clothing sale that begins April 8 at Pelham Public Library's Fonthill branch.

Clothing sale back on the books for library

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

Offering everything from gently used, new and vintage clothing, Pelham Public Library's annual spring clothing sale is the perfect opportunity for fashionists to dress up their wardrobes.

Community services co-ordinator Melanie Taylor-Ridgway says this year's sale offers not just clothes for infants, children, and adults, but a small collection of purses, belts, ties, linens and the odd knick-knack.

"There's really something for everyone," she says.

The sale at the Fonthill branch starts Monday, April 8, at 5 p.m. and continues during regular library hours until Saturday, April 13.

Long coats and two-piece suits will be sold for \$7 each, dresses and short coats are \$5 each and items such as pants,

capris and skirts are \$4 each.

And back again this year, the sale will include a final Saturday special — fill a garbage bag with clothes for \$5.

The clothing sale is one of the library's main fundraisers during the year which is a popular event for library users — typically the sale raises about \$3,000, says Taylor-Ridgway.

"We use the money we raise for programming and new materials. Last year, we added a second clothing sale in the fall for the first time because we had so many clothes."

Anyone interested in donating gently used items that are in good condition for the sale can bring them to the Fonthill branch now and during the clothing sale. For more information call 905-892-6443

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■ CULTURE: Mother's Day weekend tradition a boon to library



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Items from the Pelham Art Festival, which include three paintings and a segmented wooden bowl, are on display at Pelham Public Library's Fonthill branch. Staff member Fran Giles, along with other members of the library, are selling raffle tickets until the festival on Mother's Day weekend.

Sampling of Pelham Art Festival on display

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

The Pelham Art Festival may be six weeks away but art lovers can now get a small taste of what they can expect to see.

Four pieces of art that will be raffle prizes during the 26th art festival to be held May 10, 11 and 12 at Pelham Arena are on display at Pelham Public Library's Fonthill branch.

The small display is just a sample of what can be expected from more than 60 artists from Ontario, Quebec and the U.S. who will be featured at the Mother's Day weekend show, said Diane Rawsthorn, the festival's publicity and advertising co-ordinator.

The art on display includes paintings by Don Lavoie, Robert Hinev and Josh

Tlessen, as well as a segmented wooden bowl created by George Wilkinson.

Tickets for the raffle are \$2 each, three for \$5 or 15 for \$20 and can be purchased at the library.

Rawsthorn said about 2,000 people attended last year's event.

Funds raised by the show go right back into the community, with money going toward an annual scholarship to an E.L. Crossley graduate pursuing arts and as well as money given to the library.

"Over the last 26 years, the festival has given \$355,000 back to the community," Rawsthorn said.

For more information about the Pelham Art Festival visit www.pelhamartfestival.com.

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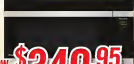
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■ NATURE: Hundreds turn out to Good Friday Hawkwatch



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

James Cowan of the Canadian Raptor Conservancy shows a crowd a bald eagle at Beamer Memorial Conservation Area.

Birds of a feather watch together

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

GRIMSBY — The weather wasn't perfect for viewing hawks flying high in the sky — but it was a good day to learn about the majestic birds.

The air was warm and the sky was a rich blue. Those elements, along with the promise of spring hanging in the air, brought about 400 people to Beamer Memorial Conservation Area.

Each year, Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch teams up with Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority to give others a chance to experience the annual migration of birds of prey.

On Good Friday, as is the norm, the public was welcomed to learn more about hawk migration through free demonstrations. The birds are now migrating north from their winters spent in the southern U.S., Caribbean and South America.

Sandy Darling said it can be difficult to see birds of prey against blue skies.

"A cloud or two makes it easier to see the birds," he said, and while adding that warmer weather causes the birds to fly higher, making them more difficult to see.

Darling returns to Beamer every year to witness the migration.

At times, as many as 200 or 300 birds can be seen circling through thermals — warm air rising from the Niagara

Escarpment.

Darling has been bird watching since the 1980s and he's been a volunteer with Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch for five years.

He said birdwatchers typically see about 15 different species of birds fly past, such as broad-winged hawks, black vultures, turkey vultures, bald eagles and a few gold eagles, although, he said, those birds are rare.

This area is unique, he said, because birds avoid flying over lakes as they make their way to their north every year. Along their route, the birds fly along the southern coast of Lake Erie, cut across the peninsula and make their way to the east end of Lake Ontario. The conservation area lies directly along their path.

Darling said the birds receive an updraft from the escarpment which helps them to fly.

By noon, bird counter and self-proclaimed "hawk addict" Tim Foran said he saw about 91 birds and five different species, including a bald eagle.

"It's a little quiet today and the sky is fairly clear," he said.

When people see a bird through their binoculars, they generally get excited and don't think about the shape of the flying animal, or its identifying markers — but that's Foran's job.

see HAWKWATCH | 17

■ HAWKWATCH

Birds of prey migration continues until May 15

FROM PAGE 16

For 20 years, he has been counting the number of birds and identifying the different species that fly by Beamer Conservation Area. Once the birds are counted, the numbers are sent to the Hawk Migration Association of North America.

"We do this so we know if the numbers of birds are up or down, where they are going and their migration trends," he said.

Each season anywhere from 20 to 30 volunteers count birds and it takes a lot of experience and knowledge to do it.

The public is invited to view the migration of the birds of prey until May 15.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

Twitter: s_ferguson25

NIAGARA PENINSULA HAWKWATCH

■ Beginning March 1, Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch has people stationed at Beamer Conservation Area to record every bird of prey that passes overhead until the middle of May.

■ The group was organized in March 1990 to promote the enjoyment of hawk watching, to educate people about hawks and hawk migration and to conduct counts of migrating hawks in the Niagara Peninsula.

■ About 15 different species fly past Beamer Conservation Area.

■ Species that are often viewed include broad-winged hawks, black vultures, turkey vultures, bald eagles and a few gold eagles.

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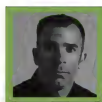
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■ ENVIRONMENT

Hydro consumption drops for Earth Hour

Wellanders, it seems, turned off more lights for this year's Earth Hour than they did in 2012.

Welland Hydro reported a 2% drop in electricity usage in the Rose City between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Sat. March, 23.

That's a slight increase from last year's 1% drop in usage, said hydro spokesperson Perry Orosz.

Canadian Niagara Power spokesperson Christine Carmichael said Port Colborne residents reduced their power usage by 1%.

"Our customers are conscientious when it comes to conservation," she said.

Niagara Peninsula Hydro, which serves the Fenwick area, reported a 2% decrease.

Hydro One reported a savings of 448 megawatts of power in Ontario during Earth Hour.

That's almost 50 megawatts more than last year.

"Conservation is something we talk about year round," Hydro One media relations officer Tiziana Bacotaga Rofa said. "Earth Hours have been happening a number of years and I think people like to do their part."

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AROUND TOWN

MONDAY

APRIL 8

CLOTHING SALE

Pelham Public Library's annual clothing sale begins and runs until April 13. All styles and sizes of clothing for men, women and children being accepted.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 17

PAIN MANAGEMENT

For individuals with arthritis of hip and knee joints, strategies will be discussed on how to manage pain and mobility issues. We will host a discussion a program that helps with assessment and with navigating the health care system. 2 p.m. Free. Register ahead at Pelham Public Library.

TUESDAY

APRIL 16

PAIN MANAGEMENT

Scotiabank Giller Prize Winner Elizabeth Hay will speak at Pelham Public Library. Elizabeth is the recipient of the prestigious Marian Engel Award. 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Please purchase ahead.

SUNDAY

APRIL 21

EXOTIC TEAS

Discover teas from around the world. Pamela Cicci of Gwen's Teas, St. Catharines, gives a flavourful tour from a few of her wall of 200 teas. Pelham Public Library at 2:00. \$4. Register ahead.

MONDAY

APRIL 22

HORTICULTURAL MEETING

The Horticultural Society meeting at Pelham Public Library Fonthill branch. Come and find out about Whistling Gardens, Canada's newest Botanical Garden, located in Wilsonville, south of Brantford. Just officially opened last May, it has the largest public collection of conifers in the world. 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

APRIL 28

FASHION SHOW

See all the latest fashions for spring and summer, check out the Spring Fashion Fling at the Brebeuf Hall on Kilally Street E. in Port Colborne. Doors open at 12:30 p.m., with a luncheon being served at 1 p.m. All proceeds will assist the Last Chance Horse and Pony Rescue to save the lives of abused equines. For more information or to purchase a ticket for \$25 which includes lunch, call Sue at 905-834-7988.

TUESDAY

APRIL 30

ICONIC SITES

"Screech-In," historic Titanic graveyard, iconic "Cheers" restaurant, and the

Plymouth Rock. See and hear about the sites from Earl Clint of Verstraete Travel. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Free. Pelham Public Library.

MONDAY

MAY 6

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.

Meet at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, starts at 7 p.m.

MONDAY

JUNE 3

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.

Meet at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, starts at 7 p.m.

MONDAY

JULY 8

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.

Meet at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, starts at 7 p.m.

MONDAY

AUGUST 5

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.

Meet at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, starts at 7 p.m.

ONGOING LISTINGS

HEARING CLINIC

Connect Hearing will be at the Fonthill branch giving free hearing screenings and answering any questions about hearing issues. Free but please schedule your appointment ahead at 905-892-6068. Monday April 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pelham Public Library.

DROP-IN CRIBBAGE

Every Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion branch 613, Fonthill. Draw for partners. No charge, everyone welcome.

KNITTING CLUB

Work on your present project while spending time with other knitters at Pelham Public Library. All levels are welcome. Crocheters welcome. Knitting tips will be shared at each session. Fridays from 1-3. \$2 includes refreshments. Drop in.

MEDITATION MORNING

Marcia leads you through different types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. For fun, learn what the symbols from your creative visualization mean. Bring a pen and notebook. \$3. April 2. Register ahead. 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Pelham Public Library.

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■ GLOBAL AID: Fonthill Dental hygienist takes part in Lima mission



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Stephanie Klok, 22, travelled to Lima, Peru, on a dental mission, where she taught children and adults about preventative dental care.

Making smiles brighter in Peru

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

Stephanie Klok has brought smiles to hundreds of people in Peru.

The part-time dental hygienist from Fonthill Dental last month visited Lima, where she gave aid to poor people in the district of Pampalón Alta.

She travelled with about 50 people, which included pathologists, gynecologists, physiotherapists and general practitioners, and helped give aid to the people who live in shanty towns.

Klok says she's always wanted to volunteer for a mission and when she heard about the Solidarity Experiences Abroad (SEA), she couldn't wait for the chance to take part in the mission. She was away Feb. 14 to 25.

SEA is a program offered through Brock University, where Klok is studying community health science with the hope to continue in the field of health promotions.

Helping to provide aid that included teaching children and adults about dental hygiene as well as preventative care, Klok says she saw about 50 to 70 people a day.

"I was pretty nervous and I didn't know what to expect," she says about her eye-opening experience.

"Nurses were the first line of defence." The group, with the help of 100 local volunteers, set up a triage, dividing

patients and sending them to various physicians based on their medical needs.

Many people were given enough vitamins and antibiotics to last a few months and were treated for dental infections, parasites and other medical issues.

"It's care they wouldn't have otherwise received," she says.

She brought along with her about several kilograms of tooth brushes, tooth paste and other dental products and toys to donate.

Klok says some parts of Lima were industrial, but much of what she saw were small huts that had dirt floors, no roofs and no running water.

"It doesn't seem like it makes a big difference but the people that deliver care do make a big difference and the people who receive it are so grateful."

"I would say just do it and do it right away. You won't regret it," Klok says to anyone thinking about volunteering for mission work.

People interested in learning more about SEA can find more information at www.brocku.ca/campus-ministries/solidarity.

Klok says there are a variety of organizations that travel to countries in-need and the best thing to do is search online to find the right one.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: s_ferguson25

sports

■ **BOXING:** 12-bout card taking place Friday, April 5, at Welland Legion

Amateur card showcasing local fighters

BERND FRANKE
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — Seven fighters from the Niagara region, including four from Fonthill, hope to make their hometowns proud this week when Nappers Boxing Club hosts its first amateur card in more than a year.



April 5 will be a good night for boxing fans in Welland. All the Napper's boxers have been working really hard for this show, and they are looking forward to showing Welland what we are all about."

Ray Napper

Twelve bouts in all will be featured in a show taking place Friday, April 5, at the Royal Canadian Legion branch on Morningstar Ave. in Welland. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the first fight starting an hour later.

Ray Napper, Star Jackman, Todd Napper and Sierra Picton, all 23 and all from Fonthill, are in the running to be showcased in the main event. Jackman, a Brampton Cup champion, has 13 bouts under his belt. Napper is 6-0 and Picton, with 26 fights

to her credit, is a silver medalist at the Ontario championships who qualified to compete at the nationals.

Also on next week's card are one-time provincial silver medalist David Calix, 18, of Welland, Brandon Dilts, 18, who is preparing for his second fight, and fellow Welland Hailie Herbert, 16, who was awarded a bronze medal at the Brampton Cup after losing a close decision in her first career fight.

Andy Tober, 23, of Fonthill is scheduled to make his ring debut at the Welland club's first show since December 2011.

Nappers Boxing Club head coach Ray Napper said the show gives his fighters an opportunity to showcase their skills in front of a hometown crowd.

"April 5 will be a good night for boxing fans in Welland. All the Napper's boxers have been working really hard for this show, and they are looking forward to showing Welland what we are all about," he said.

Next week's show will also feature fighters from the Atlas Boxing Club from Toronto, Bland's Boxing Club in Fort Erie, Irwin's Boxing Club from Niagara Falls, Huff Boxing Club from Mississauga, the Niagara Falls Boxing Club as well as the St. Catharines Amateur Boxing Club.

Tickets are \$15 at the door. Advanced tickets are available by e-mailing the club at nappersbc@hotmail.com.

Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks and food will be available at the event as will T-shirts and 50-50 tickets.

bernd.franke@sunmedia.ca



JOE CSEH Tribune Photo

Sierra Picton, from left, Hailie Herbert, Brandon Dilts, David Calix, Star Jackman and head coach Ray Napper of Napper's Boxing Club are preparing to host a 12-bout card Friday, April 5, in Welland. Absent from photo are Julia DiMancantonio, Cathy Edgecombe, Todd Napper and Andy Tober.

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This coming from a customer who had tried every other natural remedy under the sun in the past few years to take away her pain, Ian, the owner of The Healthy Cupboard couldn't believe his ears. He had finally found the perfect product to stop his customer's misery. This is what every owner of a health food store dreams about, a natural product that receives so many outstanding testimonials on such a wide variety of health issues. "I had recommended a new product called LeafSource, which we recently started carrying. We have had tremendous success with this product, and almost everyone we have recommended it to over the last few months has come back and thanked us over and over again!" said Ian. Before trying LeafSource, the woman had complained about her ongoing joint pain and was at her wit's end. Although she had experienced some relief through the numerous natural remedies she had tried over the years, the pain would never fully go away. "She returned to my store, in tears, less than one week after buying LeafSource. I didn't know what to make of this woman standing in front of me crying, until she told me that within a few days of taking LeafSource her pain started to disappear and within a week it was completely gone - as if it was never there." Ian goes on, "This coming from a woman whose painful joints and ongoing sciatica were so bad just one week earlier, that the pain was unbearable but now has completely subsided." By now you are probably

wondering what is LeafSource and why is it so effective? LeafSource is a 100% natural product derived from a proprietary organic mineral composite with over ten years of university research. LeafSource helps regulate the inflammatory process and the body's ability to repair itself. The vast majority (70 - 80%) of the population over the age of 50 have joint problems — often called osteoarthritis. This is due to the natural (or unnatural) wear and tear on joint tissue that develops through the aging process. With joint inflammation, movement is limited and pain can be constant. LeafSource seems to have the ability to help people get their mobility and zest for life back. Millions of people seek treatment for their joint and inflammation problems by resorting to expensive, toxic prescription drugs (i.e. NSAIDs) with multiple side effects. These range from nausea and vomiting to serious intestinal disorders (bleeding, gas, pain) and even kidney and liver failure. Isn't that too large a price to pay for a little pain relief? LeafSource is a safe alternative to these destructive anti-inflammatory drugs that cause more problems than they solve. There are absolutely no side effects and it doesn't interfere with any other medications. Controlled experiments and observations have revealed that LeafSource is a potent anti-inflammatory that has been shown to bring a reduction to inflammation and pain within a few days. People notice great results in terms of more energy and less pain by taking

anywhere from 2 to 6 capsules/day. Typical maintenance is usually 1 capsule twice daily. This product gets results! LeafSource is scientifically validated through more than 10 years of research at 4 universities, including the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mercer University. Aside from its incredible anti-inflammatory and pain reducing ability, it has also been shown to improve the performance of your daily nutrition and vitamin programs. It helps increase the absorption of vital nutrients, which in turn helps these nutrients work better. Better absorption = better results! It's almost as if they have become supercharged! LeafSource has also been shown to help enhance energy levels, improve intestinal health, strengthen hair, skin and nails and improve immune function. To see someone with intense pain to a new lease on life within a week is truly incredible. Imagine being able to move freely without pain. Who wouldn't want to get out of bed in the morning with more energy? It's amazing how much of this stuff we take for granted, until it's gone! Ian adds, "I often recommend that LeafSource be taken with other natural joint products in order to help them work better and provide even faster relief. One of the things I hear most often from people who have tried LeafSource is they just plain feel better, have more energy and less pain. We're so confident, we guarantee LeafSource 100%! That alone should be enough to try this incredible product."

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